

Rays of Hope lends momentum to local breast cancer research

SPRINGFIELD – The successful fundraising efforts of this year’s Rays of Hope Walk & Run Toward the Cure of Breast Cancer on Oct. 22 will once again support breast cancer research in the Pioneer Valley.

Since its creation in 2011, the Rays of Hope Center for Breast Cancer Research has brought together clinicians, scientists and advocates to promote breast cancer research. Co-directors Joseph Jerry, PhD, and Grace Makari-Judson, MD, developed the Rays of Hope Breast Registry, a repository of tissue and clinical information now approaching close to 1,000 participants.

“This unique resource which benefited from startup funds from Rays of Hope, allows regional investigators to address challenging questions and obtain the preliminary data needed to compete for larger grants,” said Dr. Makari-Judson, who also serves as chair of the Baystate Health Breast Network.

Over the years, Baystate Medical Center, Pioneer Valley Life Sciences Institute (PVLSI), and University of Massachusetts-Amherst have all applied for grants from Rays of Hope. This year, for the first time, scientists from University of Massachusetts Medical School were invited to apply for grants.

“The creation of the new University of Massachusetts Medical School – Baystate, which welcomed its first students in August, brings with it exciting new opportunities for collaborative research,” said Dr. Makari-Judson.

Several Rays of Hope-funded projects have explored possible causes of breast cancer, investigated times where women may be more susceptible to cancer, and how to use this information for prevention.

A recently published work led by PVLSI scientist Nagendra Yadava, PhD, explored variations in cellular metabolism and sensitivity to cancer. By comparing normal breast tissue from women who had been diagnosed with

breast cancer to normal tissue in women without a diagnosis, he found clear differences in metabolism, especially in the mitochondria or “powerhouse” of the cell. This work describing a possible biomarker for cancer susceptibility was published in the *Journal of Cellular Physiology*.

Also, accomplished investigator and UMass-Amherst professor Kathleen Arcaro continues to develop systems to utilize breast milk to study future breast cancer risk. Arcaro – who is a member of the Rays of Hope Center for Breast Cancer Research Review Board – focuses on “methylation,” which she describes as a “chemical tag to tell DNA when to turn genes on or off.” This process may turn off protective genes leading to heightened breast cancer susceptibility, and her hope is that by identifying at-risk women early on, there may be ways to reverse the changes and lower cancer risk.

Initial findings from Rays of Hope-supported work, led by Joseph Jerry, PhD, on effects of estrogen and the environment resulted in a \$3.5 million federal grant over five years. The project, entitled “Disruption of parity-induced tumor suppressor pathways by xenoestrogen exposures during pregnancy,” addresses questions related to the protective effect of pregnancy on the development of breast cancer and why that protection might fail. One of the objectives is to identify possible environmental risks that are of interest. A second goal is to understand why women differ in susceptibility to breast cancer.

“Rays of Hope scientists have an edge, since many researchers are limited to only a few standard cell lines, while, thanks to the Rays of Hope Tissue Registry, we have been able to develop tissue systems with greater diversity and using single cells, assess response to potential cancer causing substances,” said Rays of Hope investigator Sallie Schneider, PhD.

The local work done as part of the Breast Cancer and Environment Research Program recently received recognition as a model for collaboration with the community due to the Rays of Hope connection. Breast cancer risk and environmental exposure to common chemicals found in cosmetics and household products is the focus of a five-year grant, expected to total \$3.5 million, to a consortium of scientists at Baystate Medical Center, PVLSI, and the Rays of Hope Center for Breast Cancer Research.

“This project is truly a community collaboration led by Rays of Hope chair and community advocate Anna Symington. She has engaged young women in the project and explored types of information they need when deciding on personal care products,” said Dr. Makari-Judson.

On the clinical side, several studies are addressing needs of breast cancer survivors. Dr. Rachel Walker from the College of Nursing at University of Massachusetts-Amherst, in collaboration with PVLSI and engineers from the UMass Integrated Applied Sciences Center for Personalized Health Monitoring, is studying fatigue. Computational eyeglasses that track eye movements may be a helpful method to measure fatigue and better understand these common symptoms described by breast cancer survivors after treatment.

“The many clinical trials that we participate in at Baystate help patients going through treatment now. Several Rays of Hope-funded projects are directed towards improving the health of our breast cancer survivors. Supporters of Rays of Hope can be especially proud that dollars raised for research are being put to good use to develop regional strengths towards the future goal of, one day, preventing breast cancer altogether,” said Dr. Makari-Judson.

For more information on Rays of Hope, visit baystatehealth.org/raysofhope.

American International College to host AIDS Memorial Quilt

SPRINGFIELD – American International College (AIC) will host sections of the internationally celebrated AIDS Memorial Quilt, the 54 ½ -ton, handmade tapestry that stands as a memorial to more than 96,000 individuals lost to AIDS. In conjunction with its 30th anniversary, The Quilt will be on view at the Griswold Theatre Lobby and West Wing Gallery in the Karen Sprague Cultural Arts Center on the AIC campus from Nov. 30 through Dec. 3.

Officially beginning in 1987, The Quilt is a memorial to and celebration of the lives of people lost to AIDS. In the 1980s, many who died of AIDS-related causes did not receive funerals due to the social stigma attached to the disease and the refusal of many funeral homes and cemeteries to handle the deceased’s remains. Without the ability to hold memorial services or have access to burial sites, The Quilt was often the only opportunity family members, friends and survivors had to remember and celebrate the lives of those they lost.

Today, The Quilt is maintained and displayed by The NAMES Project Foundation. Individual quilt panels are typically very personalized and are created by the loved ones of an individual who died of AIDS-related causes. By design, each panel is 3-feet by 6-feet, the size of a human grave. Panels are donated to The NAMES Project Foundation, where they are grouped with other similar panels and assembled into 12-foot by 12-foot sections called blocks, which are on view at local displays of The Quilt. There will be 20 blocks on display at AIC.

One goal of The Quilt is to bring awareness to the enormity of the AIDS pandemic and to provide support to those affected by it. Another objective is to raise funds for community-based AIDS service organizations and to increase funding for AIDS prevention and education.

The AIDS Quilt display will be open to the public on Thursday, Nov. 30, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 1, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 2, from 12-7 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 3, from 12-5 p.m.

The event is free and open to the public. Parking is available in Lot I across from the Karen Sprague Cultural Arts Center on the corner of State and Maynard streets. Please visit aic.edu/quilt online for more information.

PUBLIC NOTICES

SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES Under G.L. c.255 Sec. 39A

Notice is hereby given by Interstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on December 1st, 2017 at Interstate Towing, Inc the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper’s lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

1997 SUBARU LEGACY
VIN:4S3BK6657V7317393
Katherine Smith
776 Suffield St
Agawam, MA 01001

1998 CHEVY PRISM
VIN:1Y15K5280WZ415273
Jennifer Hurley
43 Colony Rd
West Springfield, MA 01089

1998 HONDA CIVIC
VIN:1HGEG8541WL055921
Cameron Walker
31 Joann Dr
Westfield, MA 01089

2000 CHEVY PRISM
VIN:1Y1SK5287YZ400952
Stephen Nelson
12 Green Way
Springfield, MA 01118

2000 HONDA ACCORD
VIN:1HGCF8549YA098880
Arcadio Savcezo
164 Nollie Rd

Myrtle Beach, SC 29588
2001 LINCOLN TOWNCAR

VIN:LNHM81W11Y725159
Andrew Lossitch
13 Lincoln Terrace
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

2002 OLDSMOBILE ALERO
VIN:1G3NL52F52C140025
Joel Merryman
109 Westfield Rd
Holyoke, MA 01040

2003 MAZDA PROTEGE
VIN:JM1BJ225531213518
Rafael Nogue
37 Cameron St
Springfield, MA 01104

2003 Saab 9-3
VIN:Y5FB49S831036901
Steve Garrity
12 Cherry St
Westfield, MA 01085

2004 HONDA CIVIC
VIN:1HGEM22504L071025
William Hauser
12B Pleasant St
Westfield, MA 01085

2005 CHRYSLER SEBRING
VIN:1CEL46J75N686914
Lizbetter Hernandez
197 Oak St Apt 1
Holyoke, MA 01040

2005 HYUNDAI SONOTA
VIN:KMHWF35H15A176142
12 Old Farm Rd
Westfield, MA 01085

2005 HYUNDAI TUSCON

VIN:KM8JN72D05U165573
Holly White
69 ½ Meadow St Fl3
Westfield, MA 01085

2007 PONTIAC G6
VIN:1G2ZG58N074187182
Jared Grimm
122 E. River Rd
Huntington, MA 01050

2015 Nissan Sentra
VIN:3N1AB7AP2FY261893
Joshua Tourville
69 Strawberry Hill
Agawam, MA 01001

1995 CADILLAC ELDORADO
VIN:1G6EL12Y1SU602863
Peter Haney
818 Main St #2
Walpole, MA 02081

1997 Dodge Grand Caravan
VIN:1B4GP44R8VB405493
Sarah Rodriguez
10 Chestnut St Apt 2408
Springfield, MA 01103

1997 HONDA CIVIC
VIN:JHMEJ6572VS017565
Melanie Mercado-Caban
72 Boston Post Rd 110B
Willimantic, CT 06226

1997 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER
VIN:4M2DU55P5VUJ28429
Doreen Russell
16 America St Apt E
Chicopee, MA 01013

1998 HONDA ACCORD
VIN:1HGCG1654WA071966
Katrina Rogalski

113 Franklin St Apt 2
Westfield, MA 01085
1999 FORD F150

VIN:1FTRF17W5XNC22861
William Docherty
100 Bowles Park
Springfield, MA 01104

2000 MERCURY VILLAGER
VIN:4M2XV14T2YDJ05809
Joanette Rodiquez
584 Chicopee St, 2R
Chicopee, MA 01013

2000 SUBARU LEGACY
VIN:4S3BH6655Y7673912
Mary Johnston
33 Irving St
Westfield, MA 01089

2001 NISSAN ALTIMA
VIN:1N4DL01A71C163041
Juan Valdez
898 Park St
Hartford, CT 06106

2004 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE
VIN:1J4GW48S54C232389
Joan Brooslin
839 Shaker Rd
Longmeadow, MA 01106

2005 CHEVROLET MONTE CARLO
VIN:2G1WW12E059185891
Rebecca Oconnor
2 Birch St
Three Rivers, MA 01080

2005 GMC Envoy
VIN:1GKET16SX56110364
Raymond Chevalier
31 Alahambra N Cir
Agawam, MA 01001

2005 HONDA CIVIC
VIN:2HGES16505H525962
Marissa Pinnay-West
1614 US Route 10
Lumpert, NH 03605

2005 NISSAN ALTIMA
VIN:1N4AL11D65C192023
Michael Brooslin
839 Shaker Rd
Longmeadow, MA 01106

2006 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE
VIN:1J4HR58N06C101997
Dianne Ottomaniello
39 Chestnut St, Apt 104
Ludlow, MA 01056

2007 VANGUARD NATIONAL TRAILER
VIN:5V8VA53257M706345
Feretti Motors
10094 Sandmeyer Lane
Philadelphia, PA 19116

11/16, 11/23, 11/30/17

AUCTION NOTICE

Chicopee Self Storage Facility Operator’s Sale for non-payment of Storage Charges pursuant to the Power of Sale contained in M.G.L. Chapter 105A, Section 4. The following properties will be sold at Public Auction on **WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 29, 2017 at 12:00 p.m.**, on the premises of Chicopee Self Storage, 649 Meadow Street,

Chicopee, MA.

All household furniture, trunks, books, clothes, appliances, tools, antiques and miscellaneous items held for:

#E149 Mark Lambert
#J245 Julie A. Edger
#L313 Marcus Johnson
Tenants may claim their merchandise up to the time of sale by paying their debts and vacating the premises.

www.storageauctionusa.com, lic#3183
11/16, 11/23/17

SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES

Under G.L. c.255 Sec. 39A
Notice is hereby given by Interstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on **November 24, 2017** at Interstate Towing, Inc the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper’s lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

2006 NISSAN MAXIMA SE/SL
VIN:1N4BA41E66C859145
Jevon E Dubois
720 Riverglade Dr, Apt C
Amherst, MA 01002

11/09, 11/16, 11/23/17